

**Women's State Legislative Council
General Session Meeting Minutes
Copper Room – Senate Office Building
February 25, 2015**

Call to Order

Kari Malkovich called the meeting to order at 12:00 noon and welcomed those in attendance. She also welcomed guests at this time.

Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved after members were advised of changes and additions to speakers for the General Session under the direction of Tibby Milne, Director Judiciary/Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice.

Pledge Jean Davies

Approval of Minutes

Minutes for the previous meeting February 18, 2015 were approved as written.

Treasurer's Report

Shannon Jacobs reported a checking account balance as of February 18, 2015 of \$2,943.38. Income for this period was \$20.00 and expenses at this time were \$231.71 leaving an ending balance 2/15/15 of \$2,731.67. Zion's Gold Money Market had no additional interest and the current balance for this account is \$13,952.07.

Officer's Reports

President Elect Shauna Scott-Bellacomo reported a total of 113 members, 36. of these are new members.

Joyce Short, Nominating Committee presented the list of nominated officers to President Kari Malkovich. They are as follows:

President Elect ® Suzanne Mulet; **1st Vice President** (D) Donna Murphy; **2nd Vice President**, (Weber County Affiliate) ® Carol Harley; **Recording Secretary** ® Lorraine Turner, Katie Witt; **Corresponding Secretary** (D) Gay Lynn Bennion, Hilarie Orman; **Treasurer** ® Renee Lowrey and Jo Sjoblam; **Historian** (D) Josie Valdez; **Director Business/Labor/Public Utilities**, Brandy Farmer (D) and Kimber Gabryszak (D); **Director of Education** Amelia Powers, ® and Taylor Rosecrans®.

Kari also advised at this time that nominations could be made from the floor. She went through each office for nominations from the floor; however there were no additional nominations at this time.

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Kari Malkovich showed members pole tax receipts at this time from the 50's and 60's for voting here in Utah for both male and female voters. There was a charge, and you paid to vote during this time. Those tax receipts were from the parents of Susan Vaughn, and members could look at some of these receipts following the meeting.

General Session under the direction of the Judiciary/Law Enforcement & Criminal Justice/Revenue & Taxation/Transportation Legislative Study Committee, Tibby Milne Director

Medical Cannabis Amendments 259

Connor Boyack, President Libertas stressed the fact that this was not a criminal justice issue, it belonged to doctors and patients, it is a public health issue, and there are controls in place to prevent abuse, and proper guidance with doctors involved with proper guidance there are no side effects, and compared that to opiates which often have severe side effects.

Senator Mark Madsen @ District 13, Sponsor 259, discussed how successful cannabis oils can be for treating several conditions and symptoms including cancer, chronic pain, ALS, Epilepsy, Multiple Sclerosis, Fibromyalgia, Crohn's Disease, Lupus, and Rheumatoid Arthritis. He stated in states with legal medical cannabis, use by adolescents has not increased, it has however, decreased in some states. He talked about opiates for severe pain, which led to addiction, and death fatality rates. How payment for this would involve a card which shows approval from doctor; enter money on card, then payment from card, this to be determined. He talked about a state of mind. This is not something to be determined by a legislature. His handout included 6 families desperately needing the choice of Medical Cannabis for members of their family.

Agent Matt Fairbanks, DEA spoke strongly against the use of marijuana by teenagers, said how destructive it can be as an addiction which later lends itself to Heroin usage. As a drug enforcement administrator in this area, he talked about how toxic marijuana is and exploded several current myths about it. His handout showed statistics for states which have allowed marijuana use legally and felt harmful effects were not being reported. Asked in questions by the group about medical cannabis, he was not against it, and felt it should be approved if there were strict rules for its use.

Jo Ann Petrie, Research Specialist BYR MRI Research Facility, and Substance Disorder Counselor spoke about the use of marijuana primarily how it endangered children, citing brain development for minors, and using a handout from a national conference for the health consequences of using marijuana with its effects on Infants, children and young adults, and then her additional research results and conclusions.

Regulation and Taxation of E-cigarettes

Michael Silver, Director Government Relations, American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network, provided statistics using age groups for those under 18 using E-cigarettes. Because this does not come under tobacco laws, they can be bought by anyone without checking IDs, and there are no laws to prevent this. He also stating there is no manufacturing license required, 61% are mislabeled wrong.

Paul Ray ® District 13, sponsor of a bill to tax and regulate E-cigarettes. felt strongly there should be a license to sell under the State Tax Commission. With this, the County Health Department could be empowered to close stores. They could also require the amount of nicotine be shown on labels. The vapor is very addicting, and includes formaldehyde and benzene. (these can cause cancer) inhaling nicotine in this way is very addictive. They also believe most users are not using this to get off tobacco.

Paul Evans. Representative Utah Smoke Free Association shared with members how he used E-cigarettes to break his smoking habit, after trying to quit and using medicine prescribed by his physician which had serious side effects. He talked about using watermelon and peach flavors to help him and opened a smoke shop, and makes his own E-cigarettes for sale. As a member of Smoke Free, he does not allow anyone under 19 to purchase items, recommends a parent education program for young children to recognize the cigarettes, and require IDs.

Darrel Schildknecht, President Smoke Free Association is also a user, and also owns an E cigarette company. He spoke about using child proof and tamper proof lids, correct labeling, and warnings. When asked about the manufacturing of these which he does, he advised that he does not manufacture the vapors, these are purchased from companies in California. Asked about additional facts about the Association, there are approximately 20% of the E cigarette stores which are a part of the association.

New Business

Joyce Short, Chairman, Celebrations Committee – distributed copies of the Installation of Officers Luncheon at the Alta Club, Wednesday March 25, 2015. Reservation deadline is March 18, 2015.

Adjourn

Jean Davies
Recording Secretary